

-REMARKS -

In the Final Office Action, Examiner Luu rejected pending claims 1-14 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over "Campaigns in Cyberspace Toward a New Regulatory Approach" to *Corrado* in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,311,190 to *Bayer* et al. The Applicant responds to this rejection as subsequently recited herein, and respectfully requests reconsideration and further examination of the present application under 37 CFR § 1.114.

As to the rejection, the Applicant has thoroughly considered Examiner Luu's remarks concerning the patentability of claims 1-14 over *Corrado* in *Bayer*. The Applicant has also thoroughly read *Corrado* and *Bayer* in combination. To warrant this obviousness rejection of claims 1-14, all the claim limitations recited in claims 14-16 must be taught or suggested by the combination of *Corrado* and *Bayer*. See, MPEP §2143. The Applicant respectfully traverses this obviousness rejection of independent claims 1-14, because *Corrado* and *Bayer* in combination fails to teach or suggest the following limitations of independent claims 1, 3 and 9:

1. “sending an electronic yard sign from a communication node on a selected list, the electronic yard sign including and at least one recipient function, wherein the electronic yard sign is an electronic re-creation of a physical campaign yard sign operable to be physically placed in a yard for campaign purposes” as recited in independent claims 1 and 3; and

2. “means for sending an electronic yard sign from a communication node on a selected list, the electronic yard sign including a recipient function, wherein the electronic yard sign is an electronic re-creation of a physical campaign yard sign operable to be physically placed in a yard for campaign purposes” as recited in independent claim 9.

Specifically, the present application teaches the term “an electronic yard sign” as being “an electronic re-creation of physical campaign yard signs that are placed in yards during campaigns across the country”. See, U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/898,509 at page 3, lines 23-25.

By comparison, while *Corrado* teaches a use of the Internet for campaign purposes, a careful review of *Corrado* clearly reveals that none of the campaign activities as taught and suggested by *Corrado* can be legally interpreted for patentable purposes as “an electronic re-creation of physical campaign yard signs that are placed in yards during campaigns across the country” as encompassed by the term “an electronic sign” recited in independent claim 1, 3 and 9.

Similarly, *Bayer* teaches a system for conducting surveys to voters in multiple different languages and registering the voters over a network like the Internet. See, Bayer at the Abstract. A careful review of *Bayer* clearly reveals that none of the surveys as taught by *Bayer* can be legally interpreted for patentable purposes as “an electronic re-creation of physical campaign yard signs that are placed in yards during campaigns across the country” as encompassed by the term “an electronic sign” recited in independent claim 1, 3 and 9.

Withdrawal of the rejection of independent claims 1, 3 and 9 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over *Corrado* in view of *Bayer* is therefore respectfully requested.

Claim 2 depends from independent claim 1. Therefore, dependent claim 2 includes all of the elements and limitations of independent claim 1. It is therefore respectfully submitted by the Applicant that dependent claim 2 is allowable over *Corrado* in view of *Bayer* for at least the same reasons as set forth with respect to independent claim 1 being allowable over *Corrado* in view of *Bayer*. Therefore, withdrawal of the rejection of dependent claim 2 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over *Corrado* in view of *Bayer* is therefore respectfully requested.

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Claims 4-8 depend from independent claim 3. Therefore, dependent claims 4-8 include all of the elements and limitations of independent claim 3. It is therefore respectfully submitted by the Applicant that dependent claims 4-8 are allowable over *Corrado* in view of *Bayer* for at least the same reasons as set forth with respect to independent claim 3 being allowable over *Corrado* in view of *Bayer*. Therefore, withdrawal of the rejection of dependent claims 4-8 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over *Corrado* in view of *Bayer* is therefore respectfully requested.

Claims 10-14 depend from independent claim 9. Therefore, dependent claims 10-14 include all of the elements and limitations of independent claim 9. It is therefore respectfully submitted by the Applicant that dependent claims 10-14 are allowable over *Corrado* in view of *Bayer* for at least the same reasons as set forth with respect to independent claim 9 being allowable over *Corrado* in view of *Bayer*. Therefore, withdrawal of the rejection of dependent claims 10-14 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over *Corrado* in view of *Bayer* is therefore respectfully requested.

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SUMMARY

Examiner Luu's rejection of claims 1-14 has been obviated herein by remarks supporting an allowance of claims 1-14 over *Corrado* in view of *Bayer*. The Applicant respectfully submits that claims 1-14 as listed herein fully satisfy the requirements of 35 U.S.C. §§ 102, 103 and 112. In view of the foregoing, favorable consideration and early passage to issue of the present application is respectfully requested. If any points remain in issue that may best be resolved through a personal or telephonic interview, Examiner Luu is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

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Respectfully submitted,
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